

THE SERVANT KING

Mark 2:1-17

October 5, 2025



Message Summary.

Jesus is not thrown off by interruptions. What feels like a disruption to us often becomes a divine invitation for Him to forgive, heal, and restore. He sees deeper than the surface, calls those others avoid, and redefines righteousness. The people we overlook are the very ones Jesus draws near to. His invitation still stands today: "Follow Me."

Key Scripture Summaries.

Mark 2:1-17 — Jesus forgives and heals a paralyzed man, then calls Levi the tax collector.

1 Samuel 16:7 — God looks at the heart, not outward appearance.

Hebrews 4:13 — Nothing is hidden from God; He fully sees and fully loves us.

Daniel 7:13-14 — The "Son of Man" receives authority, glory, and an everlasting kingdom.

Isaiah 43:25 — God forgives sins and remembers them no more.

Micah 6:6-8 — True righteousness is justice, mercy, and humility.

Luke 7:36-50 — Jesus forgives a sinful woman and redefines her worth.

Mark 2:17 — Jesus came not for the healthy but for the sick, to call sinners to Himself.

Start Talking.

1. Have you ever had a day when everything was planned out, but an "interruption" changed everything? What happened?
2. Why do you think interruptions are so hard for us, even when they might be opportunities God wants to use?

Start Thinking.

- Read Mark 2:1-12. What surprised you most about how Jesus responded to the paralyzed man and his friends?
- Why do you think Jesus started by forgiving the man's sins instead of immediately

healing his body? What does that tell us about His priorities?

- Read Mark 2:13-17. How does Jesus challenge the Pharisees' idea of righteousness?

Start Sharing.

1. Share about a time when what felt like an interruption turned out to be a blessing or an opportunity from God.
2. What "below the surface" struggles (fear, pride, guilt, shame, anxiety) do you sense Jesus wants to bring into the light?
3. Who in your life do you tend to overlook or avoid, but Jesus might be calling you to move toward this week?

Start Praying.

Jesus, thank You for seeing us fully and loving us completely. Forgive us when we avoid the people or moments You are calling us to. Help us to see interruptions as invitations to join Your mission. Give us courage to carry others to You, compassion to move toward those overlooked, and humility to follow when You call. Amen.

Start Doing.

- Be Interruptible. This week, when an interruption comes your way, pause and ask: "Could this be an invitation from Jesus?"
- Look Below the Surface. Spend time in prayer asking God to reveal what He sees in your heart that needs healing or forgiveness.
- Move Toward Someone. Encourage or spend time with a person others might avoid. Show them the love and dignity Jesus gives.
- Trade the Shirt. Reflect on areas where you've been trying to "clean up" your own life. Instead, surrender them to Jesus and receive His righteousness.